UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/C.10/1992/1/Add.1
20 February 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON TRANSNATIONAL CORPORATIONS
Eighteenth session
23-25 January and 8-15 April 1992
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda (Part II)*

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. General discussion on transnational corporations in the world economy and trends in foreign direct investment in developing countries.

4. Transnational corporations and the environment.**

5. Transnational corporations in South Africa.

6. International arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations.

7. Activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and its joint units.

8. Question of expert advisers.***

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* The provisional agenda has been issued in two parts. Part I was issued as document E/C.10/1992/1 and Corr.1.

** Item considered at the first part of the session, held from 23 to 25 January 1992.

*** Item omitted in the original formulation of the provisional agenda for the eighteenth session, owing to a technical error.

9. Provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the Commission.

10. Adoption of the report of the Commission on the second part of its eighteenth session.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Election of officers

The proceedings of the Commission on Transnational Corporations are governed, mutatis mutandis, by the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council. Rule 18 thereof provides that the Bureau shall consist of five officers. The Commission may wish to follow the practice adopted at its previous sessions and elect a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

At the first part of the eighteenth session, the Commission elected a Chairman, two Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. At the second part of the session, the Commission will elect one Vice-Chairman.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda and documentation for the eighteenth and nineteenth sessions of the Commission were approved by the Commission at its seventeenth session and by the Economic and Social Council in decision 1991/285.

On 23 January 1992, the Commission adopted the agenda and organization of work for the first part of the eighteenth session.

3. General discussion on transnational corporations in the world economy and trends in foreign direct investment in developing countries

At its second regular session of 1991, the Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare for the eighteenth session of the Commission, drawing upon the work of the Centre, a consolidated report analysing the latest trends in foreign direct investment in the world economy, in particular, its impact on developing countries (Council resolution 1991/55).

In response to that mandate, the Centre issued the first in a series of annual reports (World Investment Report 1991: The Triad in Foreign Direct Investment). 1/

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on trends in foreign direct investment (E/C.10/1992/3)

Report of the Secretary-General on transnational corporations and economic growth through technology (E/C.10/1992/4)

Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Transnational corporations in the new world economy: issues and policy implications" (E/C.10/1992/5)

4. Transnational corporations and the environment

This item was considered at the first part of the eighteenth session.

5. Transnational corporations in South Africa

At its second regular session of 1991, the Council requested the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with relevant organs of the United Nations, to continue the useful work of collecting and disseminating information on the activities of transnational corporations in South Africa, including the list of transnational corporations still operating there; and to prepare an updated study on the responsibilities of home countries with respect to the transnational corporations operating in South Africa in violation of relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations (Council resolution 1991/54).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the role of transnational corporations in South Africa (E/C.10/1992/6)

List of transnational corporations with interests in South Africa (E/C.10/1992/7)

6. International arrangements and agreements relating to transnational corporations

At its seventeenth session, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to continue work in this area, taking into account the views expressed by the Commission (E/C.10/1991/17, para. 97).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the international framework for transnational corporations (E/C.10/1992/8)

7. Activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and its joint units

At its seventeenth session, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its eighteenth session on the activities of the Centre, including the activities of the joint units established with the regional commissions (E/C.10/1991/17, para. 171 (c)).

In accordance with the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/PPBME Rules 1 (1987)),

the Secretariat will submit a note on the proposed revisions to the programme on transnational corporations of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997.

The Commission also requested the Secretary-General to report to the Commission at its eighteenth session on the programme of technical cooperation and to continue to review experience gained in that programme (E/C.10/1991/17, para. 141 (c)); and to report on the experience gained in the development of a comprehensive information system since its seventeenth session (E/C.10/1991/17, para. 149).

At its resumed second regular session of 1982, the Council decided to establish an Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting (Council resolution 1982/67). At its second regular session of 1991, the Council decided to renew the existing mandate of the Group (Council resolution 1991/56).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations and of the joint units established with the regional commissions (E/C.10/1992/9)

Note by the Secretariat on the proposed revisions to the programme on transnational corporations of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 (E/C.10/1992/9/Add.1)

Report of the Secretary-General on experience gained in technical cooperation activities involving assistance in formulating negotiation strategies (E/C.10/1992/10)

Report of the Secretary-General on information requirements for assessing the performance of corporate obligations (E/C.10/1992/11)

Report of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting on its tenth session (E/C.10/1992/12)

8. Question of expert advisers

At its sixth session, the Commission decided on the modalities for the selection, rotation and participation of expert advisers (E/C.10/75, paras. 110-112).

At its eighteenth session, in accordance with those modalities, the Commission will select expert advisers who will serve until the end of its twentieth session.

Documentation

Question of expert advisers: note by the Secretariat (E/C.10/1992/13)

9. Provisional agenda for the nineteenth session of the Commission

At its second regular session of 1991, the Council approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the nineteenth session of the Commission (Council decision 1991/285).

10. Adoption of the report of the Commission on the second part of its eighteenth session

The Commission will adopt its report to the Economic and Social Council.

Notes

1/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.II.A.12.